

House Select Committee on Homeland Security Democrats

JIM TURNER, Ranking Member

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Contact: Moira Whelan (202) 226-8827

TURNER RESPONDS TO NEW PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES

Congressman Jim Turner, Ranking Member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, commented on the release of Homeland Security Presidential Directives 7 and 8, released yesterday by the White House.

On HSPD-7 regarding critical infrastructure protection:

"This Directive is an admission by the Administration that the Department of Homeland Security is not getting the job done."

"For months, the Congress has been urging the Department of Homeland Security to move forward with its responsibility under the Homeland Security Act to complete its analysis of critical infrastructure vulnerability in our nation. In addition to DHS, the Directive now charges a multitude of other federal agencies with this responsibility."

"This directive gives the Department another year to do a job we need completed today."

"Our enemies will not wait and neither can we."

On HSPD-8 regarding preparedness:

"I'm pleased that the Department will be taking this step towards protecting our communities. The House Homeland Security Committee has urged the Department to revise its funding formulas for first responders to ensure that money is spent wisely and is targeted to areas at greatest risk of terrorist attack. The Committee has reported legislation out of Subcommittee (HR 3266) to require the establishment of minimum capabilities and standards for our first responders and to streamline the federal grant process."

"I look forward to moving ahead to enact our bipartisan legislation in the upcoming session of Congress to ensure that our communities are protected from the risk of terrorist attacks."

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